plants to generate power at a PLF of 68.49 per cent, coal company will be liable to pay damage corresponding to the Fixed Capacity Charges.

(2) A nominal liquidated damages shall have to be paid by the coal company for short supplies of coal in the event supply is between 68.49 per cent PLF to a specified level.

(3) Bonus will be paid by the power producer to the coal company for the supply of coal beyond the level mentioned above.

(4) For the acceptance of the risk, the coal company shall be entitled to charge a premium as the price of coal.

Production and export of sugar

2036. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been less production of sugar during the season 1996-97 as compared to its production during the last season;

(b) if so, the causes thereof;

(c) whether inspite of less productions sugar is being exported; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) The production of sugar during the current season 1996-97 season upto 7th July, 1997 was 127.64 lakh tonnes as compared to 161.14 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date during the last season, 1995-96. The fall in sugar production can be attributed to the following reasons:—

(i) marginal decrease in area under sugarcane;

(ii) significant shortfall in productivity of sugarcane, particularly in Maharashtra;

(iii) late start of crushing, particularly in U.P.; and

(iv) diversion of sugarcane to khandsari and gur manufacture in the early part of the sugar season, particularly in U.P.

(c) and (d) The export of sugar is being made out of the freesale sugar available in the country which is surplus after fulfilling the domestic consumption requirements.

Rice drawn for PDS without linking it to procurement

2037. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested that rice upto 14 lakh tonnes may be permitted to be drawn for the PDS without linking it to procurement;

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government;

(c) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have been conveyed the view of Central Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh requested Government of India in June, 1996 that the rice for erstwhile Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) may be provided to the extent of 13.20 lakh tonnes per annum without linking it to procurement. It was also suggested by the State Government that the State will continue to draw rice for Public Distribution System (PDS) upto 14 lakh tonnes per annum without linking it to procurement and over and above that quantity, the State will also draw 50 per cent of the procurement of rice in the State for PDS leaving the remaining 50 per cent for Central Pool.

(b) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh were informed that the projected requirement of foodgrains for RPDS in case of their State was 54,420 MT per month or 6.5 lakh MT per annum calculated at the rate of 20 kg. per month **per family. Since Government had not taken any decision to extend** RPDS to Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) blocks, the requirement of foodgrains for RPDS would be reworked when a decision is taken to include EAS blocks in RPDS.

The allocations of foodgrains (rice and wheat) are being made on TPDS formula from 1-6-97 and RPDS has ceased to exist from that date. With the introduction of TPDS from 1-6-97 the State is being allotted rice as per their BPL and APL rice quotas. However, the State Government is committed to enforce levy order on rice in Andhra Pradesh.

PDS in Kerala maintains statutory rationing

2038. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that PDS in Kerala maintains the statutory rationing;

(b) whether Government reduced the allotment of rice and wheat to Kerala.

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether Government are aware that this reduction affected the PDS in Kerala;

(e) if so, the steps taken to maintain the statutory rationing in Kerala; and

(f) the steps taken on the request of Kerala Government on food allotment alongwith the details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All States/UTs have been allocated foodgrains under TPDS taking into consideration the requirements of below poverty line families @10 kg. per month per family and the quantity needed for transitory allocation, i.e., the quantum in excess of requirements of below poverty line families out of the average annual lifting for the last ten years.

(d) and (e) Requests have been received from Government of Kerala to increase their allocations of foodgrains at the level of 20.74 lakhs MT against the allocation of 17.76 lakh MT per month, so that PDS is not adversely affected in Kerala State. The request could not be agreed to.

(f) An additional allocation of 30,000 MT of rice per month have been made w.e.f. August, 1997 for three months at economic cost.

श्रीनगर, गढ़वाल में 500 मीट्रिक टन की क्षमता वाला गोदाम

2039. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी :** क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्रीनगर, गढ़वाल, में 500 मीट्रिक टन की क्षमता वाला गोदाम है और उसमें पर्याप्त खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध है ;

(ख) क्या उनमें से खाद्यान्नों की आपूर्ति नियमानुसार की जा रही है ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

खाद्य तथा उपभोक्ता मामलों के राज्य मंत्री (श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह) : (क) जी, हां, । उत्तर प्रदेश के पौड़ी गढ़वाल जिले में भारतीय खाद्य निगम के दो गोदाम हैं जिनमें से एक कोटद्वार में है जिसकी क्षमता 7500 टन है और दूसरा श्रीनगर में है जिसकी क्षमता 5000 टन है। अप्रैल 1997 से जुलाई, 1997 के महीनों के दौरान